

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MTN GE 04018 231652Z
ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
FEAE-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 /097 W
-----231654Z 008187 /41

P R 231631Z MAY 77
FM USDEL MTN GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2480
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 4018

ACTION STR

PASS AGRI

H PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN
SUBJECT: US-THAILAND MTN AGRICULTURAL CONSULTATIONS

REF: 76 MTN GENEVA 1774

1. U.S. AND THAILAND HELD CONSULTATION MAY 18 ON THAILAND'S NOTIFICATION AGAINST U.S. UNDER GROUP AGRICULTURE PROCEDURES FOR "OTHER PRODUCTS". U.S. DEL (KOENIG ET AL) NOTED THAT, ALTHOUGH THE US IS WILLING TO DISCUSS ALL ITEMS NOTIFIED UNDER GROUP AGRICULTURE PROCEDURES WITHOUT PREJUDICE AS TO HOW THEY MAY EVENTUALLY BE NEGOTIATED, THE U.S. CONSIDERS ONLY ONE ITEM ON THAILAND'S NOTIFICATION (CUT FLOWERS AND FLOWER BUDS) TO BE AGRICULTURAL.

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2. THAI DEL (SNIDVONGS AND JAYANAURA) EXPLAINED THAT THAILAND IS INTERESTED IN MFN DUTY REDUCTIONS FOR THE ITEMS NOTIFIED. US DEL RESPONDED THAT U.S. COULD, OF COURSE, ONLY CONSIDER MFN REDUCTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MTN. US DEL ALSO POINTED OUT THAT ALL OF THE DUTIABLE JUTE ITEMS NOTIFIED BY THAILAND ARE

ON THE U.S. TROPICAL PRODUCTS OFFER LIST WHICH IF
IMPLEMENTED WILL PROVIDE BOUND MFN CONCESSIONS.

3. THAI DEL ACKNOWLEDGED U.S. POSITION AND ASKED
WHETHER U.S. COULD CONSIDER AN EX-OUT FOR "TROPICAL
ORCHIDS" IF THE ENTIRE CUT FLOWERS TARIFF CATEGORY
(TSUS 192.20) WERE TO PROVE SENSITIVE TO ARIFF RE-
DUCTION. HE ALSO ASKED WHETHER U.S. COULD MAKE
GREATER-THAN-AUTHORITY MFN DUTY REDUCTIONS (I.E.
TO FREE) FOR ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THAILAND WITH DUTIES
EXCEEDING 5 PERCENT. US DEL TOOK NOTE OF THAILAND'S
POSSIBLE INTEREST IN AN EX-OUT FOR TROPICAL ORCHIDS,
AND STRESSED THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE AD-
MINISTRATION TO REDUCE DUTIES BY MORE THAN THE AUTHORITY
PROVIDED IN THE TRADE ACT WITHOUT SEEKING CONGRESSIONAL
APPROVAL OR A MODIFICATION IN THE AUTHORITY. US DEL
EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT EITHER POSSIBILITY WAS UNDER CON-
SIDERATION AT THIS TIME.

4. THAI DEL WAS UNABLE TO INDICATE WHAT SPECIFIC HEALTH
AND SANITARY PROBLEM WAS AFFECTING THEIR EXPORTS OF
RUBBER SHEETS (TSUS 771.55) EXCEPT TO SAY THAT THEIR
EXPORTERS HAD SAID THERE WAS SOME BARRIER. U.S. DEL
STATED THAT THE ONLY KNOWN HEALTH REQUIREMENT ON
RUBBER INVOLVES RUBBER PRODUCTS FURTHER PROCESSED
WHICH ARE USED IN THE PREPARATION, PROCESSING,
STORING OR HANDLING OF FOOD PRODUCTS.

5. ON QUESTION OF REPORTING, THE THAI DEL AGREED
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THAT THE REPORT SHOULD BE SHORT AND FACTUAL AND HE
INDICATED THAT THAILAND COULD PROBABLY AGREE TO RE-
PORTING JOINTLY. WALKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: MEETINGS, TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: MTN GENEVA
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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